

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN TOM ZOOK**, on January 18, 1999 at 2:50 P.M., in Room 312 - 2 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Tom Zook, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Joe Quilici, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Steve Vick, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Beverly Barnhart (D)  
Rep. Ernest Bergsagel (R)  
Rep. Peggy Bergsagel (R)  
Rep. Rosalie (Rosie) Buzzas (D)  
Rep. John Cobb (R)  
Rep. Stan Fisher (R)  
Rep. Royal Johnson (R)  
Rep. Betty Lou Kasten (R)  
Rep. Red Menahan (D)  
Rep. Ray Peck (D)  
Rep. Lila Taylor (R)  
Rep. Joe Tropila (D)  
Rep. John Witt (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** Rep. Dick Haines (R)  
Rep. Matt McCann (D)

**Staff Present:** Joanne Gunderson, Committee Secretary  
Taryn Purdy, Legislative Fiscal Branch

**Please Note:** These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. Minutes were recorded on a Sony BI-85; references are logged as inches rather than minutes.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) Posted: HB 276, SB 17, SB 50, 1/13/1999

HEARING ON SB 50

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Charles "Chuck" Swysgood. SD 17, made opening remarks on SB 50.

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 0 - 34}*

Proponents' Testimony:

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 34 - 39; Comments : Members on the Finance Committee, Reps. McCann, Peck, Vick, and Zook are to be considered as proponents of the bill.}*

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Swysgood closed.

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 39 - 41}*

HEARING ON SB 17

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Eve Franklin, SD 21, stated the purpose of SB 17.

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 41 - 65}*

Proponents' Testimony:

Sen. Swysgood, SD 17, supported SB 17.

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 65 - 86; Comments : Members of the Finance Committee, Reps. McCann, Peck, Vick and Zook are to be considered as proponents of the bill.}*

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

*{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 86 - 196}*

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Franklin closed.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 196 - 205}

HEARING ON HB 276

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Beverly Barnhart, HD 29, stated the intent of HB 276.

**EXHIBIT**(aph13a01)

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 205 - 259}

Proponents' Testimony:

Sen. B. F. "Chris" Christiaens, SD 23

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 259 - 384; Comments :  
Explained it was not an "anti-nursing home bill"}

Alve Thomas, AARP

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 384 - 412}

Verner Bertelsen, Montana Senior Citizens Association

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 412 - 438}

Joan Taylor, Director, Area IV, Agency on Aging **EXHIBIT**(aph13a02)

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 438 - Side: B;  
Approx. Time Counter: 004}

Linda Simmons, Area IV, Agency on Aging

**EXHIBIT**(aph13a03)

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 4 - 44}

Christiana Schweitzer, Montana Trial Lawyers Association

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 44 - 51}

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 51 - 363; Comments:  
Bob Bartholomew, Montana Ombudsman, responded to questions from  
the committee.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Barnhart deferred closing remarks to Sen. Christiaens and then formally closed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:50 P.M.

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REP. TOM ZOOK, Chairman

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JOANNE GUNDERSON, Secretary

TZ/JG

**EXHIBIT** (aph13aad)